

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-7 are pending. Claim 2 has been canceled. Claims 1 and 3-7 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action dated April 23, 2007, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 7 in view of the Examiner's comments. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 7 are definite, and therefore request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections.

The Examiner rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants have amended claim 7 in view of the Examiner's comments. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being unpatentable over Verosub, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0205028 (hereinafter "Verosub") in view of Yamanaka, U.S. Patent No. 6,853,960 (hereinafter "Yamanaka"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections in view of the claims, as amended.

Independent claim 1, as amended recites:

A contents processing apparatus comprising:

a contents information storage that stores contents, a contents management file for managing licenses for the contents, plug-in modules for executing processing of the contents, and *a plug-in management file for defining executable operative functions of the plug-in modules, the contents management file managing operations according to the contents, and the plug-in management file managing operative functions according to the plug-in modules;*

a plug-in setting device that installs plug-in modules corresponding to the contents to be processed;

an operation recognition device that identifies permitted operations relating to execution of processing of the contents to be processed from the contents management file corresponding to the contents to be processed;

a plug-in function permission device that permits use of functions corresponding to the permitted operations recognized by said operation recognition device among functions of the

plug-in modules installed by said plug-in setting device, and permits use of the plug-in modules installed by said plug-in setting device according to the contents of the plug-in management file;

a contents processing execution device that executes processing of the contents to be processed, according to the functions of the plug-in modules permitted by said plug-in function permission device; and

an update device that updates the plug-in management file.

The Verosub reference does not disclose, teach, or suggest the apparatus specified in independent claim 1, as amended. As the Examiner has acknowledged, Verosub does not teach “a plug-in setting device that installs plug-in modules corresponding to the contents to be processed”, “an operation recognition device that identifies permitted operations relating to execution of processing of the contents to be processed from the contents management file corresponding to the contents to be processed”, or “a plug-in function permission device that permits use of functions corresponding to the permitted operations recognized by said operation recognition device among functions of the plug-in modules installed by said plug-in setting device, and permits use of the plug-in modules installed by said plug-in setting device according to the contents of the plug-in management file.”

In addition, unlike the apparatus specified in claim 1, as amended, Verosub does not teach “*a contents information storage that stores contents, a contents management file for managing licenses for the contents, plug-in modules for executing processing of the contents, and a plug-in management file for defining executable operative functions of the plug-in modules, the contents management file managing operations according to the contents, and the plug-in management file managing operative functions according to the plug-in modules.*”

Verosub is directed to a digital content store system. (Verosub, paragraph 0001)

Verosub discloses a client machine 16 having a download manager 162 which is used to download an encrypted asset 18. Once an encrypted asset 18 is streamed or downloaded 174 to

the download manager 12 at the client machine 16, the download manager stores the encrypted asset 18 to a specified location. (*Verosub, paragraph 0073*) However, Verosub does not disclose, teach, or suggest “a contents information storage that stores contents, *a contents management file for managing licenses for the contents, plug-in modules for executing processing of the contents, and a plug-in management file for defining executable operative functions of the plug-in modules, the contents management file managing operations according to the contents, and the plug-in management file managing operative functions according to the plug-in modules.*” Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1, as amended distinguishes over Verosub.

The Yamanaka reference does not make up for the deficiencies of Verosub. Yamanaka is directed to a communication apparatus using a plug-in system. (*Yamanaka, 1:10-14*) Yamanaka discloses a system including a plug-in module (*Yamanaka, Fig. 7*) Yamanaka also discloses a plug-in judgment unit which determines whether plug-in modules are required when a browser receives content and notifies a plug-in-inside history management unit 7. (*Yamanaka, 14:35-43*) Yamanaka discloses a plug-in download unit which downloads a module file concerning a plug-in module necessary for displaying received contents. (*Yamanaka, 4:40-46*) In other words, Yamanaka discloses calling a plug-in module required for specific contents based on the contents. However, the combination of the Verosub and Yamanaka does not disclose, teach, or suggest “a contents information storage that stores contents, *a contents management file for managing licenses for the contents, plug-in modules for executing processing of the contents, and a plug-in management file for defining executable operative functions of the plug-in modules, the contents management file managing operations according to the contents, and the plug-in management file managing operative functions according to the plug-in modules.*”

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1, as amended distinguishes over Verosub in combination with Yamanaka.

Independent claim 7 recites limitations similar to those in independent claim 1, as amended. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 7 distinguishes over Verosub in combination with Yamanaka for reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to independent claim 1, as amended.

Claims 3-6 depend from independent claim 1, as amended. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-6 distinguish over Verosub in combination with Yamanaka for the same reasons set forth above with respect to independent claim 1, as amended.

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Applicants believe that the claims are in condition for allowance. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance should the Examiner believe that such a telephone conference call would advance prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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